

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
75 High Street, Room 301
Morgantown, WV 26505

December 9, 2005

WEST VIRGINIA BULLETIN NO: WV300-6-4

SUBJECT: LTP – FY2006 Farm Bill Actions and Timelines

Purpose: To provide information and Timelines for use in implementing the FY 2006 Farm Bill Programs

Expiration Date: This Bulletin expires September 30, 2006

This Bulletin provides a timeline for use in implementing the FY 2006 Farm Bill Programs. Field staffs need to ensure that all active Farm Bill Program applications are entered into ProTracts and that each application has a cost estimate associated with it. On or after March 15, 2006, NHQ will determine from ProTracts reports if each state has sufficient applications on hand to obligate their financial assistance (FA) allocation for each program. Any Farm Bill FA funds not obligated in a signed contract by June 1, 2006 are subject to reallocation to another state with greater demand.

Field staffs need to move forward with planning and scheduling the necessary work items to allow NRCS to obligate this financial assistance during FY 2006. ASTC(FO)'s and DC's are strongly encouraged to share this information with the Local Work Groups to keep them informed of upcoming activities. At this time we do not have a timeline for CSP, but we anticipate a winter sign up.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Herbert Andrick, ASTC-Programs at 304-284-7560.

/s/ William P. O'Donnell, Acting for

RONALD L. HILLIARD
State Conservationist

Attachments

DIST: A
F

FY 2006 Farm Bill Timeline

EQIP

January 9, 2006 LWGs meet and provide advice regarding any changes in LWG Priority Resource Concerns, Ranking Criteria, and Practice Lists. DCs send information in electronic format to Herb Andrick and their ASTC(FO). DC's will clearly identify any recommended changes in the ranking criteria and cost list from FY 2005. The State Conservationist must approve any changes.

January 16, 2006 NRCS and Local Work Group members announce availability of EQIP information and end of ranking period. Conduct Concentrated Public Outreach.

March 3, 2006 End of Ranking Period.

April 7, 2006 DC's complete ranking of applications. All EQIP applications and ranking data are entered into ProTracts.

April 14, 2006 Lead DCs will select applications for contract development, based on ranking points and funding availability, from the ProTracts database. The "Lead DC" in the LWG will coordinate and confirm applications selected for contract development with the other DC's, the ASTC(FO), and the ASTC(Operations). Do not skip over a higher ranked application to fund a lower ranked application.

April 19, 2006 DC notifies the applicants selected for contract development via letter, using ProTracts.

May 26, 2006 EQIP Plan of Operations and Contract support documents to be prepared for contract approval. DC's will promptly notify the ASTC (FO) and ASTC (Operations) in writing of any problems with applicant cancellations. All conservation plans and contract support documents will be developed in Toolkit. The contract support documents will be uploaded into ProTracts, according to the guidance and instructions for the use of ProTracts.

WHIP

March 3, 2006 End of Ranking Period.

March 24, 2006 FO completes ranking of applications. All WHIP applications and ranking data are entered into ProTracts.

March 29, 2006 Tentative approval list distributed.

May 26, 2006 Completed contracts uploaded and obligated in ProTracts.

WRP

Applications will be forwarded to the State Office as received.

AMA-Pending receipt of funds

March 3, 2006 End of Ranking Period.

Apr 21, 2006 FO completes ranking of applications. All AMA applications and ranking data are entered into ProTracts.

Apr 28, 2006 Application approval list distributed.

May 26, 2006 Completed contracts uploaded and obligated in ProTracts.

FY2006 Farm Bill Timeline

October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September
3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
AMA											
Continuous Signup					March 3 - End of Ranking Period						
			Ranking of applications as received			April 21 COB - Ranking Completed and in ProTracts					
						April 28 - Application approval list to Field Office					
						Contract dev.		May 26 - All contracts developed and signed in ProTracts			
CSP											
CSP Timeline will be released after announcement of the Sign Up Period											
EQIP											
Continuous Signup					March 3 - End of Ranking Period						
			Ranking of applications as received			April 7 COB - Ranking Completed and in ProTracts					
						April 14 - Application approval list to Field Office					
						Contract dev.		May 26 - All contracts developed and signed in ProTracts			
WHIP											
Continuous Signup					March 3 - End of Ranking Period						
			Ranking of applications as received			March 24 COB - Ranking Completed and in ProTracts					
						March 31 - Application approval list to Field Office					
						Contract dev.		May 26 - All contracts developed and signed in ProTracts			